

B.

The demarcation of 108 miles of boundary at a cost of Rs. 35·83 per mile.

GENERAL REMARKS.

15. Mr. Wingate, of the Revenue Survey, was the only special officer employed for forest-settlement, and a great portion of his time was taken up with land-revenue-settlement. I am given to understand that the latter work will henceforth be very light and that progress in Kánara will be accelerated proportionately.

16. The maps of the whole area of forests in Kánara have not yet been issued, so that the figures of area are approximate only. Of the total estimated area, 789 square miles have been finally dealt with, partly as reserved, partly as protected; and the remaining area, or about $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of the whole, has still to be settled under Chapter II. or made protected under Chapter IV. In 1879, the whole was gazetted under Chapter V.

17. In the other districts of the Circle what remains to be done is:—

Dhárwár.

- (1) The settlement of 3,867 acres of new "Fuel and fodder" reserves, recently notified under Chapter II (Government Resolution No. 3122 of 18th May 1888).
- (2) The conversion of the areas, originally protected under Chapter IV., into reserved forest (Government Resolution No. 6066, dated 19th August 1889).

Belgaum.

- (1) The settlement of 39,239 acres of land (selected subsequently to the original forest-settlement) in the Khánápur Táluka.
- (2) The conversion of the areas, originally protected under Chapter IV., into reserved forest (Government Resolution No. 6066, dated 19th August 1889).

Bijápúr.

The settlement of the proposed "fuel and fodder" reserves, aggregating 14,568 acres.

18. The statement marked A in the Appendix, shows the results of settlements sanctioned by Government. It does not include work, finished by the Forest-Settlement-Officers, but not sanctioned by Government up to the 31st March last. In the estimate of the work still to be done, it is necessary to take into account work accomplished but not yet sanctioned.

19. There appears to be no reason why the whole of the field-work for the districts outside Kánara should not be completed during the next two working-seasons, as a special officer has been appointed to do the settlement of Dhárwár and Belgaum.

CHAPTER II.

SURVEYS AND WORKING PLANS.

I.—SURVEYS.

20. During the year a party of the Topographical Survey of India, under Colonel Pullan, was placed entirely at the disposal of the Bombay Government

for forest surveys. The standard scale was fixed at 4 inches to the mile, and all forests surveyed were surveyed on that scale.

21. Work was continued in the Northern Division of Kánara, and 132.75 square miles are reported by Colonel Pullan to have been completed.

22. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 25,200, so that the cost of the completed detail-survey, together with the advance-work accomplished, came to Rs. 190 per square mile. During the previous year, the cost came to Rs. 250. The past year's results are, therefore, so far favourable that the cost per square mile was considerably less than that of the previous year, but the rate is still very high and represents about two years' average net revenue.

23. The survey was carried out on the same system as that adopted during the previous year.

II.—WORKING PLANS.

24. Messrs. Bell and Oliver, Assistant Conservators, continued the enumeration of the forests which it is proposed to tap by means of a railway or tramway.

25. Mr. Bell measured the diameters of all trees over 6 inches in diameter on 2,268 acres, and Mr. Oliver those on 3,554 acres. These test-plots represent an area of 117,414 acres of forest.

26. The comparative smallness of the area examined by Mr. Bell may be attributable to the greater difficulty of the ground.

27. The justification of the proposed railway rests mainly on the quantity of teak annually exploitable. The quantity of other wood is very considerable, and much greater than the amount required for the proposed railway scheme.

28. The calculations have not yet been completed, but it appears probable that a yield of 2,300 teak-trees, over 24 inches in diameter, estimated to contain 3,900 tons of 50 cubic feet per ton, could safely be exploited annually from the forests east of the Gund-group, which is very difficult to get at. These 200,000 cubic feet of teak represent a much larger annual yield than has ever yet been exploited from the forests of the Northern Division of Kánara, and it would probably be difficult to get transport to carry out the work in the ordinary way by means of bullocks and carts. About 120,000 cubic feet is the usual quantity of teak exploited, and even this quantity is exploited with difficulty because only a certain class of men can be induced to undertake the work in the heart of the forests. A rail or tramway, will, therefore be necessary if a yield of 200,000 cubic feet is to be extracted.

29. Mr. Bell was assisted by Mr. Sātáráwála, Acting Sub-Assistant-Conservator, until the middle of December, when the latter fell seriously ill and did not return during the rest of the working-season. His place was taken by Mr. Sheshu Manju, Sub-Assistant Conservator.

30. Mr. Oliver was assisted by Mr. Haripad Mitra, who, however, soon left on account of illness, and did not return during the working-season.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENTS.

ESTABLISHMENT.

31. No change was made in the existing permanent staff, which was as usual supplemented by a temporary establishment. Proposals for a re-organization of the superior and subordinate staff were sent in on 25th June and 7th August 1888 as ordered by Government.